

A. Describe how the Bible was transmitted, translated, and gradually recognized as authoritative by religious communities from antiquity to the present

1. identify the original languages of the Hebrew Bible and New Testament and their relative dates of authorship;
2. demonstrate knowledge of early Jewish and Christian communities and the reasons they recorded these writings;
3. gain familiarity with later translations and audiences for whom they were composed;
4. analyze primary source information and using the information appropriately;
5. synthesize information from multiple sources to draw conclusions.

B. Select and use appropriate study and research skills and tools according to the type of information being gathered or organized, including almanacs, print and digital publications, internet news sources, and information services

C. Read biblical narratives

1. identify the chief characters;
2. describe and analyze in those narratives the elements of plot, such as setting, major events, problems, conflicts, and resolutions;
3. describe and analyze several narrative styles, literary form, and intended impact on the reader.

D. Read biblical poetry

1. identify the characteristics that distinguish poetic forms from prosaic forms;
2. describe and analyze the way they invite the reader to share emotions, through the use of imagery, personification, and figures of speech, including simile and metaphor; and the use of sound, such as rhyme, rhythm, repetition, and alliteration.

E. Demonstrate knowledge of historical, geographical, social and cultural contexts of biblical literature in the ancient world

1. learn and discuss pivotal historical events;
2. learn and discuss pivotal geographical locations;
3. compare the religious, social and cultural lives within the ancient Near Eastern/Greco-Roman world

F. Identify diverse interpretations of biblical texts

1. compare the way people and communities respond differently;
2. illustrate diverse interpretations of several prosaic and poetic biblical texts.

G. Illustrate knowledge of ways the Bible has impacted literature, art, music, and thought

1. read several pieces of literature that extensively use biblical allusions;
2. listen to several pieces of music that rely on the biblical text;
3. view several artistic works (sculpture, oils, watercolors) that use biblical images, characters, or scenes.